

News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 22, 2006

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Kind Calls for Halt of Arab Port Security Deal

National Security Concerns Must be Addressed in Consultation with Congress

Washington, DC – U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) released the following statement on the pending deal to grant control of several U.S. ports to a United Arab Emirates-owned company, Dubai Ports World. Democrats and Republicans alike have raised serious concern over national security risks. President Bush most recently said that he would veto any attempt by Congress to halt the sale.

"The security of our nation's ports is an essential part of the strategy to protect America from terrorist threats. I have serious reservations about the Administration's decision to authorize a deal which would cede control of U.S. ports to a country that has been irresponsible in fighting terrorism and preventing the spread of nuclear weapons. At a minimum, the contract should be halted while a thorough review is conducted in consultation with Congress regarding the national security risks the deal may pose."

and will oppose any measure that compromises national security or the safety of the American people. Our ports are potentially the soft-underbelly of our nation's security and that is why it is unwise to jeopardize our nation's security with a country that has been irresponsible in fighting terrorism and preventing the spread of nuclear weapons.

Ceding control of U.S. ports to a country that has been irresponsible in fighting terrorism and preventing the spread of nuclear weapons is unwise.